

any policy decisions an agency makes which do not comply with the approved guidelines “shall be deemed to be arbitrary, capricious, an abuse of discretion, and otherwise not in accordance with law.”

I am very concerned that the language in this amendment could give rise to a new cause of action against Federal agencies in their regulatory process. A longstanding principle of regulatory law is that agencies must show that their regulatory actions are not “arbitrary and capricious” or courts will overturn those actions. This amendment creates a new and separate cause of action against regulatory agencies who veer from their guidelines in the formulation of a regulation. This is an unnecessary addition to the legal weaponry available to challenge agency regulations since the current law already provides that agencies are prohibited from making “arbitrary and capricious” regulatory decisions. I do not understand why we would purposely increase our courts’ load of regulatory litigation for no discernible substantive benefit.

Furthermore, the amendment does not limit these restrictions to regulatory actions. All “policy decisions,” specifically including “agency guidance,” are subject to this requirement. “Agency guidance” could include the posting of information on an agency website or the issuance of disaster warnings. It is troubling that we would potentially be creating a new legal cause of action against agencies for putting agency guidance on their websites. It’s even more troubling that we would prohibit agencies from making disaster warnings until those agencies’ scientific integrity guidelines are approved by the Director of OSTP.

Clearly, these new impositions on the Federal agencies are not without cost. However, what is the real benefit here? Early on, the Obama administration issued an order to all Federal agencies to adopt scientific integrity policies. OSTP oversaw this process, and Federal agencies now have scientific integrity policies in place. What additional benefit does this amendment provide over what the administration has already completed? Moreover, the Federal government already has well established procedures in place to ensure Federal regulations are only issued after careful review of the scientific evidence. It’s hard to imagine this amendment provides any benefits to this process that would outweigh the dangers and costs I just identified.

Finally, I want to express my discomfort with placing the OSTP and the President’s science advisor in a regulatory oversight role. The President of the United States needs sound scientific advice from a trusted and competent advisor. OSTP was created to provide that advice to the President. This is an office that has typically maintained bipartisan support over the years. I would hate for that support to erode because we’ve placed inappropriate responsibilities on that office. I would also note that OSTP’s annual budget is relatively modest and the office is already stretched thin carrying out its current duties. This amendment provides no funding for the newly mandated duties, and it is unclear how OSTP is supposed to fund these new responsibilities.

I do think it is important that the Federal government use the best available science when it does its work. Unfortunately, for the reasons I’ve outlined, I don’t think this amendment is the way to achieve that goal, and I must oppose the amendment.

IN MEMORY OF REVEREND DR.
J.J. ROBERSON

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 26, 2012

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I would like to honor the memory of a spiritual leader and visionary from Houston, Texas, Reverend Dr. J.J. Roberson.

Dr. Roberson will be remembered as a distinguished minister, husband, father, Master Barber, and World War II Veteran. He has inspired our community with his work as the Founder and Pastor Emeritus of Mt. Hebron Missionary Baptist Church. During his 50-year tenure as Pastor of Mt. Hebron Missionary Baptist Church, Dr. Roberson was credited with expanding the size of the sanctuary and for increasing the church membership to over 2,000.

Dr. Roberson was consistently recognized for his outstanding leadership as President of the Baptist Ministers Association of Houston & Vicinity. He was inducted into the Religious Hall of Fame in Dallas in 2011, as well as the Visionary Pastors Hall of Fame in Houston in 2012.

As we say goodbye to a courageous leader and man of God, we acknowledge that our community has lost a resounding voice for justice, fairness, and equal opportunity. Although this is a significant loss, we find consolation in knowing that many of our lives have been forever changed because Dr. J.J. Roberson lived.

While I will indeed miss his physical presence, I will continue to admire his spirit and passion for helping those who are the least, the last, and the lost among us. To many, Dr. Roberson was a pillar within our community and a great preacher; but for me not only was Dr. Roberson a dynamic religious leader, he was a mentor, trusted advisor, and beloved friend.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND
SERVICE OF LIEUTENANT COLONEL,
DR. FRANK RAILA, MD,
USA, RET.

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 26, 2012

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and accomplishments of a true American patriot: retired Lieutenant Colonel Frank Raila. Lieutenant Colonel Raila has lived a rich and full life: he is a veteran, a medical doctor, a father, and so much more. He is a fantastic example of those individuals who make up our “greatest generation.”

Living on the south side of Chicago, Frank Raila was called to serve his country shortly after his eighteenth birthday in 1943. He was sent to Europe as a Private in the 106th Infantry Division, where he served on a machine gun crew. He participated in an unsuccessful attempt to retake the city of Schonberg in late 1944. During this assault, then-Private Raila was captured by German forces and sent to a mining labor camp as a prisoner of war. Be-

fore long, he used quick thinking and ingenuity to escape from captivity during a transfer to a new location, and worked to rejoin friendly forces.

During the rest of the war and for several years after, Frank Raila continued to serve his country—remaining with the United States Army and eventually retiring with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel.

After the war, Frank Raila returned to civilian life and attended the Stritch School of Medicine at Loyola University at Chicago. As a Neuroradiologist, he had a long and distinguished career—practicing in locations around the country and abroad over several decades.

On behalf of myself and a grateful nation, I want to thank Lieutenant Colonel Raila for all he has done for our nation: for his service, his sacrifices, and his hard work. I want to welcome him, and all the other veterans participating in the “Honor Flights” to Washington D.C. in recognition of this year’s “Day of Honor” program on August 1, 2012.

IN MEMORY OF CHLOE ZULCOSKY

HON. JOHN L. MICA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 26, 2012

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of Chloe Zulcosky, a recent graduate of Seminole High School in Sanford, Florida.

There are some people in our lives that inspire us to be better, to reach for every opportunity, and, when we fall down, to brush ourselves off and continue pushing ahead. Friends, Chloe was one of those people. She served as a role model in her community, and shone through to all as a fun-loving and courageous young lady. Chloe showed the community of Seminole County how to live life as a kind, genuine and beautiful person.

Chloe was the Senior Captain of her cheerleading team at Seminole High School. While at cheerleading camp at the beginning of her senior year, Chloe started having terrible migraines. After weeks of continuous pain, she was diagnosed with glioblastoma, a type of brain cancer which usually occurs with patients older than 55.

Chloe underwent surgery in early September to remove the brain tumor. She was scheduled after the surgery for one year of chemotherapy to diminish any of the tumor that was not removed.

She was able to experience a senior year full of love and support from the Seminole County community. Chloe received the honor of Homecoming Queen at Seminole High School, attended her prom, and graduated from high school.

On Wednesday July 25, after a long and courageous fight, Chloe passed away. While it is with a heavy heart that I report to Congress that Chloe passed away today, I am confident that her life and memory will remain with not only those she knew, but all those who knew of her.

I again ask we remember the life of this wonderful young woman and pray for the family and friends who are grieving her loss. May Chloe inspire us all.

RED TAPE REDUCTION AND SMALL BUSINESS JOB CREATION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. RICK LARSEN

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 25, 2012

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4078) to provide that no agency may take any significant regulatory action until the unemployment rate is equal to or less than 6.0 percent:

Mr. LARSEN of Washington. Mr. Chair, I rise today in opposition to H.R. 4078, which would cut critical regulations not with a scalpel but, like many have said, with a nuclear bomb. The transportation authorization bill, MAP-21, which this body passed with a widely bipartisan vote, included many important safety and efficiency regulations, but my amendment to exempt them was not made in order.

If signed into law, this bill would pull the emergency brake and stop safety regulations which were just enacted. One important regulation this bill would block is the installation of seatbelts in motorcoaches. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration believes these seatbelts could reduce the risk of fatalities in rollover crashes by 77 percent. Safety improvements like these will help prevent all too common transportation disasters, like the motorcoach crash in 2007 which killed 7 members of the Bluffton University baseball team in Ohio.

This is just a single example of the critical regulations that H.R. 4078 would halt indiscriminately. I urge the House to reject this bill.

RECOGNIZING MARION COUNTY HIGH SCHOOLS

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 26, 2012

Mr. WEBSTER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to congratulate Marion County Public Schools on having some of America's best high schools. In their inaugural High School Challenge, a ranking of the nation's 19,000 best high schools, the Washington Post named four Marion County high schools—Bellevue High School, Vanguard High School, North Marion High School, and Lake Weir High School—among America's top ten percent of high schools.

In rating high schools, the High School Challenge considers the ratio of college-level tests administered to graduating seniors at a particular high school. The survey looks at the total number of Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), and Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE) exams given at a school in a single academic year. This rating is intended to indicate the level of a high school's commitment to preparing their students for college, noting that students who face AP, IB, and AICE exams are better prepared for the rigors of college reading lists and examinations.

This is not the first time that Marion County Public Schools have been recognized for their

quality high schools. The U.S. News and World Report rankings of high schools has ranked nationally two Marion County high schools—Vanguard High School and Lake Weir High School—and recognized nationally three others: Bellevue High School, Marion Technical Institute, and West Port High School.

Marion County's dedication to quality high school education is evident from these recognitions. I applaud their commitment to their students and their community. May their example inspire many to follow in their footsteps.

HONORING ALEXANDER TEVES, HERO AND VICTIM OF THE AU- RORA, COLORADO SHOOTINGS ON JULY 29, 2012

HON. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 26, 2012

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and memory of Alex Teves, who was killed in the terrible shooting in Aurora, Colorado, not long ago. He died saving his girlfriend's life, pushing her out of the way and covering her with his body as bullets flew around the theater. He was only 24 years old.

At his young age, he was already the kind of person many of us hope to be. Friends, family and everyone who knew him describe him as an extraordinarily warm, generous and sincere man. Beyond the goodness he showed his close friends, he was enthusiastic to meet and get to know everyone, whether they were older, younger, shared his interests or had never spoken with him before. People felt his optimism, his honesty and his genuine kindness as soon as they met him. He made the most of his natural gifts and abilities and made time to help others. He was more than a good example—he was a rare and very good human being.

Every day in high school he wore a white t-shirt and blue jeans, and was so well-known and well-liked that the entire student body held a "Teves Day" each year for everyone else to wear the same. He graduated from the University of Arizona in 2010 and earned his Master's in Counseling Psychology from the University of Denver just this June. He was preparing to dedicate his life to helping those who could benefit from his warmth, his compassion and his wisdom. To anyone tempted to become cynical about our country, our future or our way of life, I say Alex Teves proves them wrong.

Our nation loses someone special to gun violence far too often. In Alex, we lost someone who was not afraid to befriend strangers, not afraid to push himself in the service of others who needed help, and not afraid to give his life for someone he loved. He lived a quiet, everyday kind of heroism that never gets the recognition it deserves and never seeks it. I humbly offer my voice to the many, many others who are grieving for his death today, and offer them as much comfort and support as I can. He was a truly extraordinary person, and those who knew him best will miss him for a very long time. I believe his name will live on as a good, even a great, example for others. He felt a natural instinct to love, help and be good to the people around him, and he

passed it on simply by being himself. He deserves a greater tribute than I can pay him today.

TOM BROWN

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 26, 2012

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to recognize the outstanding service of Mr. Tom Brown of Kansas City, Missouri. Mr. Brown has been awarded the Phoenix Community Achievement Leader Award. His years of service to his community make Mr. Brown well qualified and deserving of this honor.

Tom is currently serving as my Chief of Staff, and to see him receive this award for his dedicated service to the community gives me extreme pride. One of Tom's strongest contributions to the area is his work for St. Luke's Hospital, where he is currently a board member. He also serves on the board for St. Luke's Northland Hospital, St. Luke's College and The American Hospital Association's Committee on Governance. He has previously served on the Tri-County Mental Health Services Board and as Clay County Commissioner from 2000–2004.

Tom has been active in many other civic, social, and political groups in Kansas City. He has served as Chairman of the Missouri Lottery Commission and of Safe Haven, Inc., and was a former member of the Missouri Port Authority Commission. Furthermore, Mr. Brown was the secretary of the Clay County Economic Development Corporation and Vice President of Clay/Platte Development Corporation. Mr. Brown's commitment to his community has affected more lives than he may ever know.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me in applauding Mr. Tom Brown for his continued commitment to bettering his community. I know Mr. Brown's colleagues, family and friends join with me in thanking him for his commitment to others and wishing him happiness and good health in his future endeavors.

NORTHERN NEVADA'S OLYMPIAN

HON. MARK E. AMODEI

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 26, 2012

Mr. AMODEI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Jacob "Jake" Dalton of Reno, Nevada as he represents his country in the 2012 Olympic Games in London as a member of the U.S. men's gymnastics team.

Jake, a 2009 graduate of Spanish Springs High School and scholarship recipient at the University of Oklahoma, has the reputation of a fierce and proven competitor. Only 20 years old, Jake is already a champion, winning two NCAA titles in 2011 and the all-around gold in the Winter Cup Challenge in 2011.

To earn his place on the team, Dalton excelled in the U.S. Olympic trials in San Jose, California, winning both the vault and the floor exercise. His teammates are Jonathan Horton, Danell Leyva, Sam Mikulak, John Orozco, and